Wild life tourism in Orissa

6852. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) wheher there is a vast scope for development of forest and wild life tourism in Orissa;

(b) whether there is also a vast scope to attract domestic as well as foreign tourists to the tribal populated districts of Phoulbani, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Kalahandi and undivided Koraput in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to develop tourism in those areas particularly in the undivided Koraput district?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Development of Tourism in the identified areas of State is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Government of India provides financial assistance on the basis of specific and complete proposals received from the State Government. For the development of Tourism in tribal areas in Orissa a tourist complex at Koraput for Rs. 42.23 lakhs, a Visitors centre at Bissam-Cuttack for Rs. 3.52 lakhs and a Visitors centre at Kalahandi for Rs. 3.52 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

During the year 1994-95 an amount of Rs. 14.05 lakhs has also been sanctioned for the Water Sports Equipment for the State.

Expansion of Airports in Gujarat

6853. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) which are the Airports in Gujarat being expanded;

(b) the details of the expansion programme; and

(c) by when the expension programme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to upgrade the following airports in Gujarat:—

AHMEDABAD: Extension of runway, subject to availability of land from the State Government.

BHUJ: Construction of Terminal Building, AAI has sought land from Indian Air Force.

BHAVNAGAR: Extension of runway from 6000 ft. to 7500 ft. The project is in planning stage in AAI.

PORBANDAR: Construction of Terminal Building, Eestimates are under preparation in AAI.

RAJKOT: Resurfacing of runway, apron and taxiway. Estimates are under preparation in AAI.

VADODARA: Construction of new Terminal Building, operational wall and additional taxiway and extension of apron—Expected date of completion is October, 1995.

Construction of Technical Block cum Control Tower—Project is in planning stage.

Performance of ITDC Hostels

6854. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 36 ITDC hotels ten are running in loss;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the average occupancy percentage of the ITDC hotels is less than 50 per cent